PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY
SEPTEMBER 8, 2007

WHEREAS, the need for a highly literate citizenry increases as California moves toward an increasingly technological future; and

WHEREAS, more than 25% of the state’s adults experience literacy issues that severely impact their lives and families, their ability to work productively, and their full participation as citizens and residents of our state; and

WHEREAS, California’s Library Literacy programs have trained 11,664 volunteer tutors who provided literacy instruction to more than 20,000 adult Californians during the 2005-06 program year, enabling them to achieve such personal goals as sharing a book with their child, paying their own bills, voting, completing a job application, being promoted at work, using the library regularly, taking their children to story times at the library, and reading a newspaper; and

WHEREAS, Project Read - Menlo Park, since its inception in 1985, has trained over 1,000 volunteer tutors who have helped more than 2,000 adults learn English reading and writing; and

WHEREAS, Project Read-Menlo Park is the inaugural evening program offered at Belle Haven Community School (BHCS) providing English classes and is an active member of the BHCS Collaborative and the Literacy Coalition; and

WHEREAS, Project Read—Menlo Park partners with the Homeless Veterans Rehabilitation Program, Sequoia Adult School, OICW, the Menlo Park Senior Center, and the Belle Haven Community School to provide adult literacy services; and

WHEREAS, Project Read-Menlo Park is hosting its first fundraiser, TASTE DESSERTS! for Literacy, on September 6, 2007 to celebrate International Literacy Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Kelly Fergusson, Mayor of Menlo Park, California do hereby proclaim September 8, 2007 as International Literacy Day in Menlo Park and urge my fellow residents to learn more about the importance of literacy and to become involved with literacy efforts in their communities.

___________________________________________
Kelly Fergusson, Mayor of Menlo Park
August 28, 2007